

Great Basin Research and Management Partnership:

Promoting comprehensive and complementary research and management collaborations to sustain ecosystems, resources and communities across the Great Basin

Beginnings:

- Formed as a result of “Collaborative Watershed Management and Research in the Great Basin” workshop held in Reno, Nevada (11/2006).
- Participants agreed that comprehensive and immediate action was needed to address the many urgent issues facing the Great Basin and that actions required active collaboration among research and management organizations in the region.
- A steering committee was assigned to develop what is now **The Great Basin Research and Management Partnership (GBRMP)**.
- Participants include federal, state, tribal and local-government land and resource management agencies; non-governmental organizations; representatives of federal legislators; federal, state, university and non-governmental researchers; and other partners of interest.
- Results of the workshop are summarized in a US Forest Service General Technical Report (Chambers, et al. 2008; http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs/rmrs_gtr204.html).

Vision:

To develop and support teams representing the full spectrum of stakeholders cooperating to solve the region's ecological and socio-economic issues through integrated research and management. GBRMP does not replace existing collaborations, but builds upon their strengths by increasing coordination and communication. GBRMP provides a mechanism for assembling diverse research and management groups working in the Great Basin to:

- (1) obtain consensus in identifying and prioritizing issues;
- (2) expand and help focus existing collaborative efforts;
- (3) facilitate new teams to address emerging issues.

It also provides critical information sharing capacity for existing collaborations and new teams.

Priority Issues:

- Water Resources
- Energy Development
- Climate Change
- Fire
- Invasive Plants
- Wildlife Disease Concerns
- Insect Outbreaks
- Riparian and Aquatic Ecosystems
- Sagebrush Ecosystems
- Aspen Ecosystems
- Rare and Vulnerable Species
- Changing Land Use & Urbanization
- Public Perceptions of Land Management

Charter and MOU:

Nine federal and two state agencies, and six university partners have agreed to a common Charter and signed an MOU. GBRMP maintains an open door, welcoming all interested stakeholders.

The GBRMP is composed of:

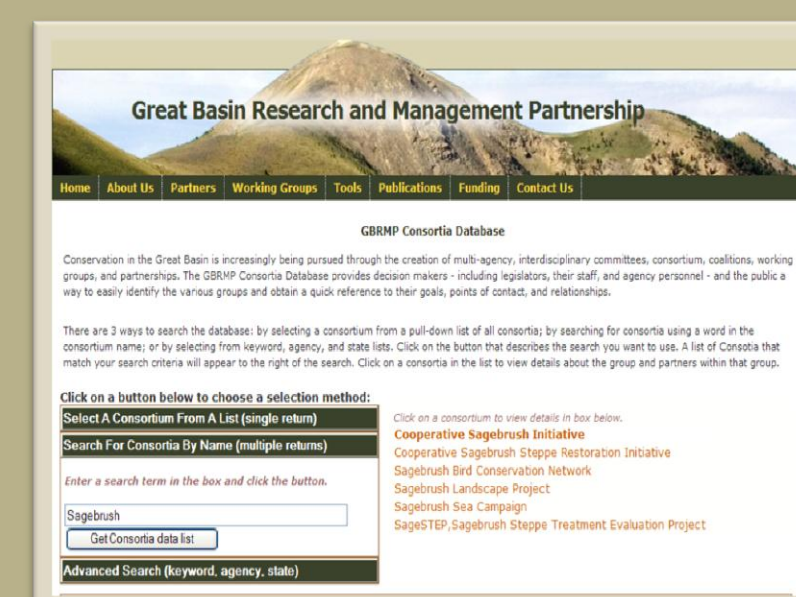
- Executive Committee which provides leadership, pursues & allocates resources, and reviews & evaluates progress;
- Coordinating Committee which anticipates information, strategy, and policy needs and devises strategies to facilitate new and existing collaborations;
- Series of Working Groups focused on specific science or management questions and information exchange.



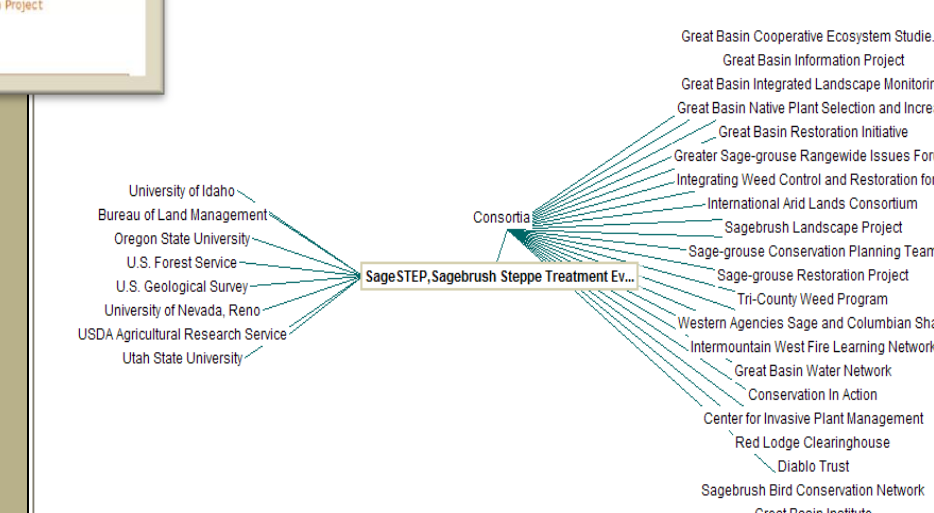
Working Groups:

GBRMP's primary mechanism to enact collaborative science & management is through focused Science and Technical Working Groups. There are no hard guidelines or models for group formation. Working groups may be suggested by Executive or Coordinating committee members (e.g., **Information Management Working Group**) or they may emerge through GBRMPs collaborative process. For example, the **Invasive Species Working Group** (CSREES) and the **Science Delivery Working Group** (JFSP) were formed around specific funding opportunities. GBRMP also seeks to support existing Working Groups by providing tools and communication links to increase their effectiveness. Science and technical groups develop recommendations that will provide a basis for action by participating agencies, NGOs, and others to ensure sustainability of Great Basin ecosystems.

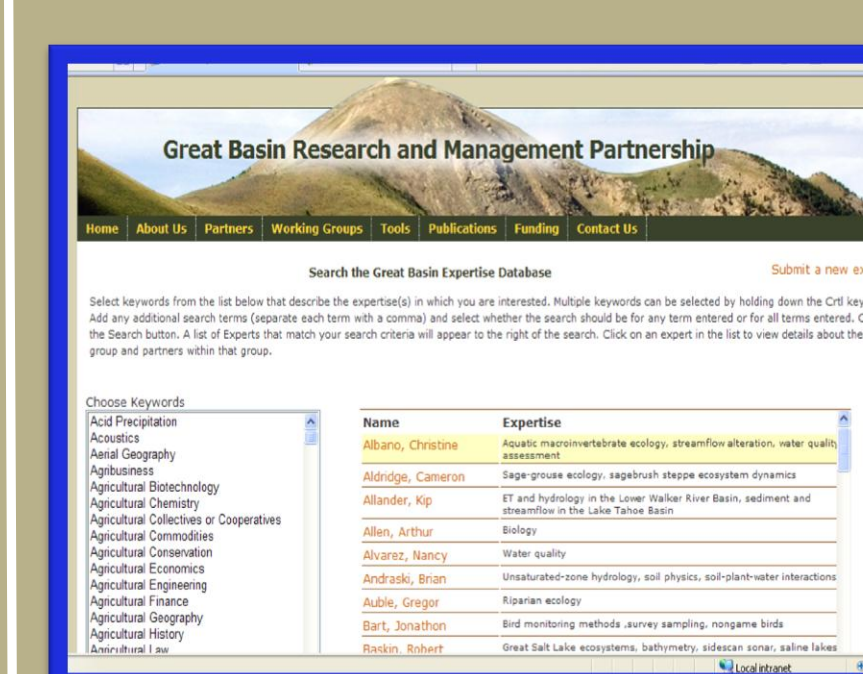
Tools: Consortia Database



The GBRMP Consortia Database provides decision makers and the public a way to easily identify the various collaborative groups and obtain a quick reference to their goals, points of contact, and relationships.



Experts Database



Collaboration relies on the ability of groups and individuals to find experts in various fields. The Great Basin Experts Database is one resource that can be used to find these experts.



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<http://greatbasin.wr.usgs.gov/gbrmp/>